

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 3, 2003 LB 72

we're going to see a definite shift in what the State Fair should be about and what needs to be done to make it a viable operation. And that's, of course, what we're looking for if we intend to keep the State Fair as a premier event in this state. This particular bill has a three-year sunset, because we felt that in three to four years, at least three years, we should be able to show that a positive effect is being shown by the State Fair in its operation. And I'm sure...I'm positive in my own mind, and in fact I'm excited about the fact that we have new members on the foundation who have the experience and the knowledge and the ability to lead the fair in the direction it needs to go. For your information, they have just now recently hired a manager of the foundation who has a great deal of experience and is very active in fund-raising. And of course, the purpose of the foundation is to raise those kind of funds that are needed to make the fair successful and build up the facilities out there and make it something that all of Nebraska can be proud of. Again, I'm excited about the future of the fair and what will happen. And all we're saying here is that if anybody, when he fills out their income tax, feels so inclined, they can donate \$1 or more of their refund into this State Fair Fund that we are now establishing. With that, I hope that you will see fit to advance this bill and pass it to final conclusion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Madam Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I do have committee amendments offered by the Revenue Committee. (AM0071, Legislative Journal page 317.)

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Madam Clerk. My understanding is that Senator Connealy, Vice Chair of the committee, will handle the committee amendments. Senator Connealy, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CONNEALY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Senator Vrtiska did allude to the committee amendments. They are very simple. The committee amendment sunsets the checkoff. It limits the tax refund donation to the State Fair to the years 2003 through 2005. I urge your support of the committee